



PRESS RELEASE

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CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS TO BEGIN AT QUARRY HILL PARK

Stream Reconstruction and Sanitary Sewer Installation Will Eliminate Access to Parts of the Park

The City of Rochester will begin site preparation work at Quarry Hill Park on Monday, March 22nd for two construction projects that will be completed simultaneously this spring and summer. The first project is a stream reconstruction and stabilization project that will return Quarry Hill Creek to its original channel in order to eliminate chronic soil erosion and bank failures that contribute to Silver Creek's turbidity impairment. The creek will also be reconnected to its floodplain to help protect the Nature Center from flooding. Three pedestrian bridges and one trail ford will be added to the trail system to facility stream crossings.

The second project is the installation of 2,628 ft. of new, eight-inch sanitary sewer that will connect the Parkwood Hills sewer line to the Silver Creek Trunk Sewer. This is being completed in order to relieve sewer capacity issues in NE Rochester, provide gravity flow of sewage to eliminate the Parkwood Hills lift station, and to provide capacity for future development to the NE. The projects are being completed simultaneously to minimize disruptions to the Park. Both projects are a continuation of work started in the north end of the Park in late 2006.

The City has contracted with A-1 Excavating to complete the work. Their initial on-site tasks will be to construct an access road from the staging area near the Park's entrance to the meadow, install erosion and sediment control practices and fencing along the construction limits, and remove trees and shrubs from the stream and sewer alignments.

Although construction is expected to be completed by mid-June, there will be no public access to the construction area and the affected trails, located primarily on the east side of the Park, until construction is complete and the new native trees, shrubs, grasses, and flowers are well-established – expected to be sometime this fall. Bituminous trails within the project area will be closed temporarily at various times to facilitate tree clearing, channel construction, and bridge placement. Park visitors are being asked to help insure their own safety and that of the construction workers by staying out of the construction area and away from trails while they are closed.

Questions about these two projects may be directed to Barb Huberty at the Rochester Public Works Department (328-2425 or bhuberty@rochestermn.gov). Periodic project updates will be posted on this web site: www.rochestermn.gov/departments/park/Construction/index.asp.

The Rochester Park and Recreation Department and the Friends of Quarry Hill Nature Center will be undertaking a pond repair and expansion project near the sewer and stream projects. That project is expected to begin in late April or early May and will also eliminate access to some Park areas.

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